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PRESS RELEASE

**CECIL FREEMAN SENTENCED
FOR CAR JACKING AND POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

United States Attorney Anthony J. Jenkins announced that Cecil Freeman, 40, of St. Thomas, was sentenced to 66 months incarceration, 3 years supervised release and a special assessment of \$ 200.00. Freeman previously pled guilty to the federal indictment which charged him with car jacking and possessing a firearm while being a user of a controlled substance.

Criminal charges were filed against Freeman, a former security guard, on March 11, 2003, after he became involved in an altercation with an employee of the Megan's Point Hotel. After the initial altercation, Freeman jumped into a taxi waiting outside the hotel and pointed a firearm at the driver while ordering him to leave the hotel property. The driver complied with Freeman's order and drove away. A few minutes later, while still pointing the firearm at the driver, Freeman ordered the driver to stop and get out of the taxi. Just as the vehicle stopped, the driver jumped from his vehicle and ran back to the hotel where he immediately reported the crime to the police.

U.S. Attorney Jenkins credited the success of this investigation to the cooperative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Virgin Islands Police Department and the Territorial Marshals.